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Remarks:

Amendments to the claims:

Claims 17 and 20-23 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 17 is amended, claims 1, 2, 10-13, 15 and 19 are canceled, and new claims 20-23 are added. Claim 17 is amended to correct typographical and grammatical errors and to maintain consistency within the claims.

No new matter is added to the application by this Amendment. Support for new claims 20-23 can be found within canceled claims 10-13 and 15.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; and (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application are thus respectfully requested.

The applicant requests that the amendments to the claims be entered without prejudice. Applicant expressly reserves their right to enter claims addressed to presently cancelled subject matter in a later divisional, continuation or continuation-in-part application.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants note with appreciation that claim 17 has been identified as being allowed. Applicant further notes that all remaining claims in the application are directly or indirectly dependent from claim 17, and should be considered allowable.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1, 10, 12 and 15 under 35 USC 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by US 4,255,595 to Wilke et al. (hereinafter "Wilke"):

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Applicants traverse the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 10, 12 and 15 as allegedly being anticipated by Wilke.

The Patent Office alleges that Wilke teaches each and every feature of claims 1, 10, 12 and 15. Applicants respectfully disagree with the allegations of the Patent Office.

In view of the cancelation of claims 1, 10, 12 and 15, this rejection is moot.

Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC 102(e) is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of (A) claims 2, 11 and 13 under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wilke and (B) claim 19 under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over US 6,252,118 to Jun et al. (hereinafter "Jun") :

Applicants traverse the Examiner's rejections of (A) claims 2, 11 and 13 as allegedly being unpatentable over Wilke and (B) claim 19 as allegedly being unpatentable over Jun.

The Patent Office alleges that the features of claim 2, 11 and 13 are taught or suggested by Wilke and that the features of claim 19 are taught or suggested by Jun. Applicants respectfully disagree with these allegations by the Patent Office.

In view of the cancelation of claims 2, 11, 13 and 19, these rejections are moot.

Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections under 35 USC 103(a) is respectfully requested.

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Regarding new claims 20-23:

Each of the new dependent claims 20-23 ultimately depend from allowed claim 17.
Thus, Applicants submit that new claims 20-23 also contain allowable subject matter in view of the references of record.

Should the Examiner in charge of this application believe that telephonic communication with the undersigned would meaningfully advance the prosecution of this application, they are invited to call the undersigned at their earliest convenience.

The early issuance of a *Notice of Allowability* is solicited.

CONDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR FEES

Should any further fee be required by the Commissioner in order to permit the timely entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully Submitted;

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27 May 2009
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CERTIFICATION OF TELEFAX TRANSMISSION:

I hereby certify that this paper and all attachments thereto is being telefax transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office to telefax number: 571 273-8300 on the date shown below:

Allyson Ross
Allyson Ross

27. May 2009

Date:

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